reflects the decreased profiles. Lastly, the curve with square shaped data points shows the results using a standard Henschel blending tool typically used when blending electrophotographic toners (this tool differs from the tool in Figure 2). When compared to the results using the 45-degree arm position, the standard tool provided less than 50% of the blend intensity offered by the tool of the present invention at its maximum profile and intensity. Such results are to be expected since conventional tools lack both collision plates and arcurate trailing surfaces.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute amended claims 1, 3, 10, 11 and 14 for pending claims 1, 3, 10, 11, and 14 as follows:

1) (Amended) An improved blending tool for rotation in a blending machine wherein the plane of rotation defines a z-axis, comprising:

(a) a center shank having an x-axis orthogonal to the z-axis of rotation;

(b) a collision surface having a collision profile; and

(c) a connector mechanism connecting the collision surface to the center shank, for connecting the collision surface to the center shank in different positions fixed during rotation of the tool such that the collision profile of the collision surface varies with different positions of connection, said connector mechanism having an axis of connection substantially different from both the x-axis and z-axis.

Please cancel claim 2.

3) (Amended) The blending tool of **claim 1** wherein the axis of connection is adjustable primarily along a y-axis defined as the axis orthogonal to the x-axis and the z-axis.

10) (Amended) An improved blending tool for rotation in a blending machine wherein the plane of rotation defines a z-axis, comprising:

(a) a center shank having an x-axis orthogonal to the z-axis of rotation;

(b) a collision surface having a collision profile;

(c) a connector mechanism connecting the collision surface to the center shank, for connecting the collision surface to the center shank in one of a plurality of preset positions that are fixed during rotation of the tool such that the collision profile of the collision surface varies with different positions of connection, said connector mechanism having an axis of connection substantially different from both the x-axis and the y-axis;

(d) at least one arm having a first and second end wherein the first end is connected to the center shank and the second end is connected to the collision surface and wherein the arm has a plurality of through holes;

(e) a central hub having a plurality of pre-set positional holes; and

(f) a bolt for rigidly holding the arm in positional relationship to the central hub when said bolt is inserted through the hole in the arm and into an aligned positional hole on the central hub.

11) (Amended) A blending machine, comprising:

(a) a vessel for holding the media to be blended;

(b) a rotatable drive shaft inside of the vessel, for transmitting rotational motion to the blending tool, wherein the plane of rotation defines a z-axis; and

(c) a blending tool mounted to the drive shaft inside the vessel, said blending tool comprising a center shank having an x-axis orthogonal to the z-axis of rotation, a collision surface having a collision profile, and a connector mechanism connecting the collision surface to the center shank for connecting the collision surface to the center shank in different positions during rotation of the tool such that the collision profile of the collision surface varies with different positions of connection, said connector mechanism having an axis of connection substantially different from both the x-axis and z-axis.

Please cancel claims 12 and 13.

14) The blending machine of **claim 11**, wherein the collision surface of the blending tool comprises a collision plate spaced apart and rigidly connected to the center shank of the blending tool during rotation of the tool.